

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method of depositing at least one functional film (5) on at least one part of one or two faces of flat or curved substrates (2). For said purpose, the substrates are conveyed individually to a film-coating station and are advanced therein along the plane or neutral plane thereof. The aforementioned film-coating station contains a film-applicator assembly (4) comprising at least one axis which is perpendicular to the direction of advancement of the substrate and which is parallel to the advancement plane, at least one reel of film being mounted to said assembly. The inventive method consists in: conveying the leader (10) of the film from each of the reels, which is to be applied to, and held against one face of the substrate at a selected position, into the aforementioned film-coating station; unwinding the reel(s) such that the film can be applied in strip(s) to the advancing substrate; and cutting the film(s) at a selected moment. Moreover, the new film leader is held so that it is ready to be applied at the selected position on the same substrate or on a subsequent substrate.